

Message Text

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TO USMISSION GENEVA

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY MADRID

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, WTO

SUBJECT: WTO - ROC ISSUE

REF:A.GENEVA 1561; B. GENEVA 1777

1. WE REGARD ROC ISSUE IN WTO TO BE BASICALLY PROBLEM FOR LONATI, AND DO NOT WISH TO BE DRAWN CONSPICUOUSLY INTO HIS EFFORTS TO RESOLVE IT. AS LONATI HAS TAKEN INITIATIVE TO REVIEW PROBLEM AND HIS ACTIONS WITH MISSION, HOWEVER, MISSION SHOULD BE GUIDED BY FOLLOWING IN FURTHER CONVERSATIONS WITH HIM.

2. PRIOR TO EXPULSION FROM IUOTO, ROC DID DEPOSIT RATIFICATION OF WTO STATUTES AND WE AGREE THAT LEGALLY IT CAN

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CLAIM MEMBERSHIP IN TRANSFORMED ORGANIZATION UNTIL SUCH

TIME AS WTO ASSEMBLY MAY DECIDE OTHERWISE. AS PRACTICAL MATTER, HOWEVER, UNLESS ROC DECIDES TO WITHDRAW VOLUNTARILY FROM WTO, IT APPEARS AS FOREGONE CONCLUSION TO US THAT FIRST WTO ASSEMBLY WILL REFUSE TO SEAT ROC DELEGATION IF IT APPEARS, AND WILL TAKE DECISION TO EXCLUDE ROC FROM MEMBERSHIP IN WTO WHETHER OR NOT ROC IS PRESENT. LATTER STEP WILL BE TAKEN BECAUSE ONE OF PRINCIPAL QUESTIONS BEFORE FIRST ASSEMBLY WILL BE THAT OF FORMALIZING RELATIONSHIP OF NEW INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION WITH UN SYSTEM.

COMPOSITION OF THOSE ELIGIBLE TO CAST VOTES AT FIRST ASSEMBLY, COUPLED WITH HIGH INTEREST MAJORITY WILL HAVE IN SECURING FIRM RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN WTO AND UN SYSTEM, LEAVES NO DOUBT ABOUT THIS OUTCOME IF ROC CONTINUES TO CLAIM WTO MEMBERSHIP AT TIME FIRST ASSEMBLY CONVENES.

3. WE AGREE, OF COURSE, THAT AS THINGS NOW STAND LONATI IS OBLIGATED TO INVITE ROC PARTICIPATION IN FIRST ASSEMBLY. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR LONATI TO MAKE OBJECTIVE SITUATION CLEAR TO ROC, AS IT APPEARS HE DID IN MANILA, AND TO PERMIT ROC AUTHORITIES TO ASSESS THEIR INTERESTS IN LIGHT OF THIS.

4. FOREGOING GUIDANCE PREPARED BEFORE RECEIPT REFTEL B WHICH FURTHER STRENGTHENS THE ALREADY CONSIDERABLE LIKELIHOOD OF THE ROC'S EXPULSION FROM THE WTO. IN RESPONDING TO LONATI, MISSION SHOULD AVOID IMPRESSION THAT OUR ENDORSEMENT OF HIS EFFORT TO DISCOURAGE ROC ATTENDANCE AT WTO ASSEMBLY FLOWS FROM HIS RECENT CONVERSATION WITH PRC REP.

5. FOR TAIPEI: IF APPROACHED BY ROC ON THIS ISSUE, EMBASSY MAY ADVISE ROC AUTHORITIES OF LONATI'S APPROACH TO US (REFTEL A) AND OUR FOREGOING ASSESSMENT. INGERSOLL

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